

**“Support health security, preparedness planning and crisis management in EU, EU-accession and neighbouring (ENP) countries”**

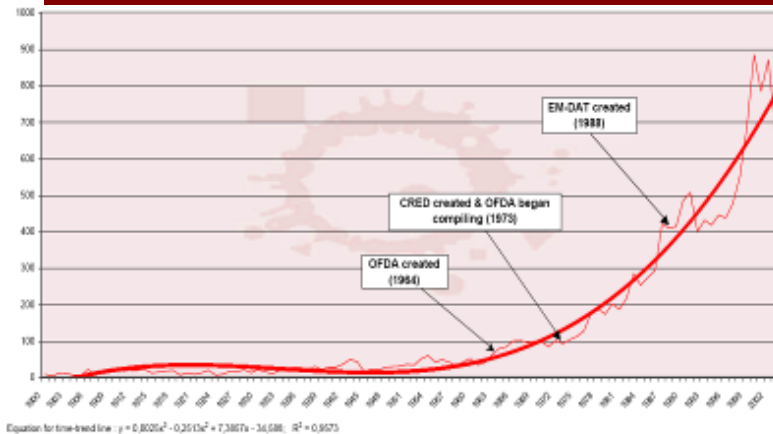


**Strengthening health systems crisis  
management capacities in the WHO  
European Region**

A WHO - DG Sanco collaboration

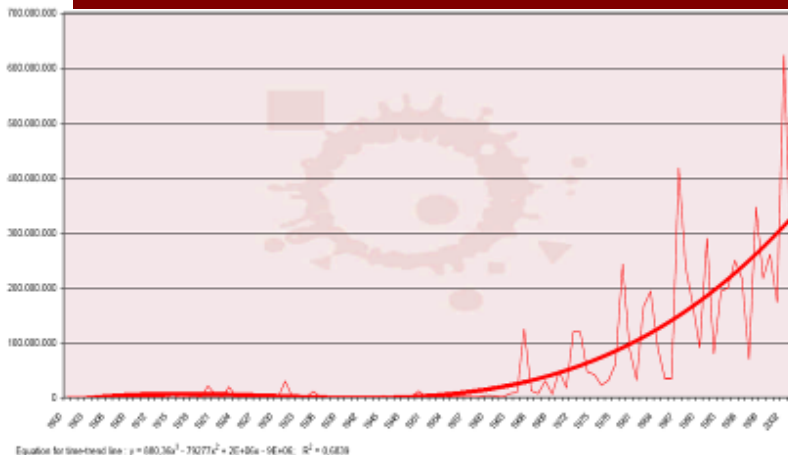
# The global trends:

## NUMBER OF DISASTERS – 1900-2003



Source: EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, [www.em-dat.net](http://www.em-dat.net) - Université catholique de Louvain - Brussels - Belgium

## PEOPLE AFFECTED – 1900-2003



Source: EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, [www.em-dat.net](http://www.em-dat.net) - Université catholique de Louvain - Brussels - Belgium

- Increasing numbers of health crises and disasters – at any moment 30 – 40 WHO member states are affected by a crisis
- Growing social & economic losses – long term consequences for vulnerable societies (MDGs)
- During the past 20 years, disasters have killed at least three million people; adversely affecting 800 million more
- **Health** is a major concern

# WHO's Objective in “Crises”

To reduce the health consequences of emergencies, disasters, crises and conflicts and to mitigate their social and economic impact

*Taking a “health systems approach” (all-hazards / whole-health)*

*WHO = “health cluster lead agency” - humanitarian health response*



# ***Delivering the four WHO core – functions in crises & emergencies***



- Assessment and analysis (health information management)
- Coordination/Health cluster
- Identifying gaps in the public health response – and potentially filling them
- Protecting and strengthening local capacities & systems

# Preparing for what: Main public health threats in the regional context

- **Communicable** diseases
  - Influenza pandemic
  - SARS
  - TB and HIV/AIDS
  - Accidental or deliberate release of biological, chemical and radio nuclear agents
- Natural & human made **disasters**
- Conflicts and complex emergencies (“frozen conflicts”)
- Global changes – **climate change**



# Health Crises affecting the WHO European Region (1990-2008)

Type of event	Number of events	Deaths	Total affected	Economic damage (thousands of US\$)
<b>Flood</b>	<b>413</b>	3 912	<b>12 137 319</b>	<b>84 072 159</b>
<b>Extreme temperature</b>	141	<b>80 993</b>	3 442 803	16 245 450
<b>Drought</b>	36	2	<b>15 875 965</b>	15 082 309
<b>Wild fire</b>	72	329	1 293 432	10 653 811
<b>Earthquake</b>	110	<b>21 943</b>	5 903 433	37 859 949
<b>Accidents</b>	<b>695</b>	18 848	154 410	12 431 777
<b>Mass movement*</b>	59	2 220	190 880	1 610 698
<b>Storm</b>	302	1 680	8 360 716	<b>68 486 129</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 828</b>	<b>129 927</b>	<b>47 358 958</b>	<b>246 442 273</b>

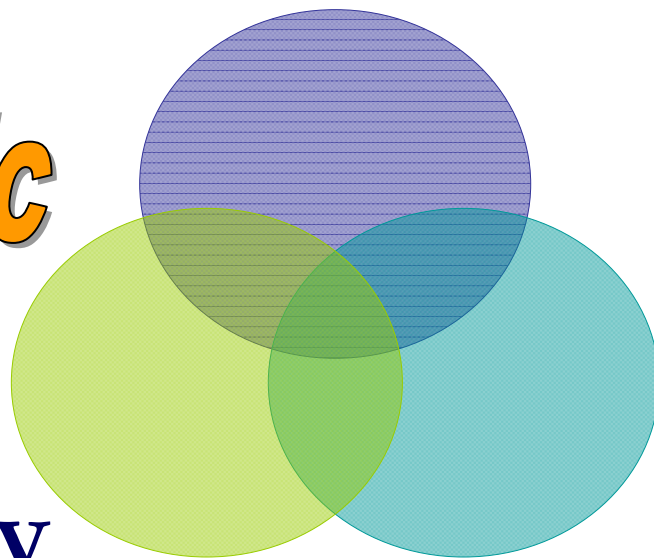
\* Mass movement includes: avalanche, landslide, rockfall and subsidence

Source: "EM-DAT: The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database, [www.emdat.be](http://www.emdat.be) - Université catholique de Louvain - Brussels - Belgium" © 2009 CRED

One of the same kind...  
each of them a challenge for health systems

**Disaster**

***Pandemic***



**Emergency**

**Health –  
Crisis**

***all-hazards approach***

# All-hazards / whole-health approach

**80% of what we do in emergencies is GENERIC – we do it in every emergency in the same way**

- the “all-hazards” approach: an approach to emergency management based on the recognition that there are **common elements** in the management of responses to virtually all emergencies, and that by **standardizing** a management system to address the **common elements, greater capacity is generated** to address the unique characteristics of different events.

**15% is HAZARD-SPECIFIC**

- much can be done before field data are available through assessments

**5% is UNIQUE TO THE EVENT**

- the people, the place and the time

# The WHO – DG Sanco collaboration

Expert consultation,  
Barcelona, March 2007

- ➔ Based on a regional analysis:
  - Identify **main components, key elements** and **essential attributes** for the health systems crisis preparedness planning process (“de – construction”)
  - Develop an assessment tool to evaluate country capacities
  - Based on an **all-hazards**/multi sector approach, using the WHO **health systems framework**



# The WHO - Health Systems framework

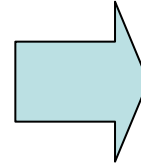
## Core Functions of the Health System

Leadership & Governance  
(Stewardship)

Resource Generation

Health finance

Service Delivery



## Goals/Outcomes

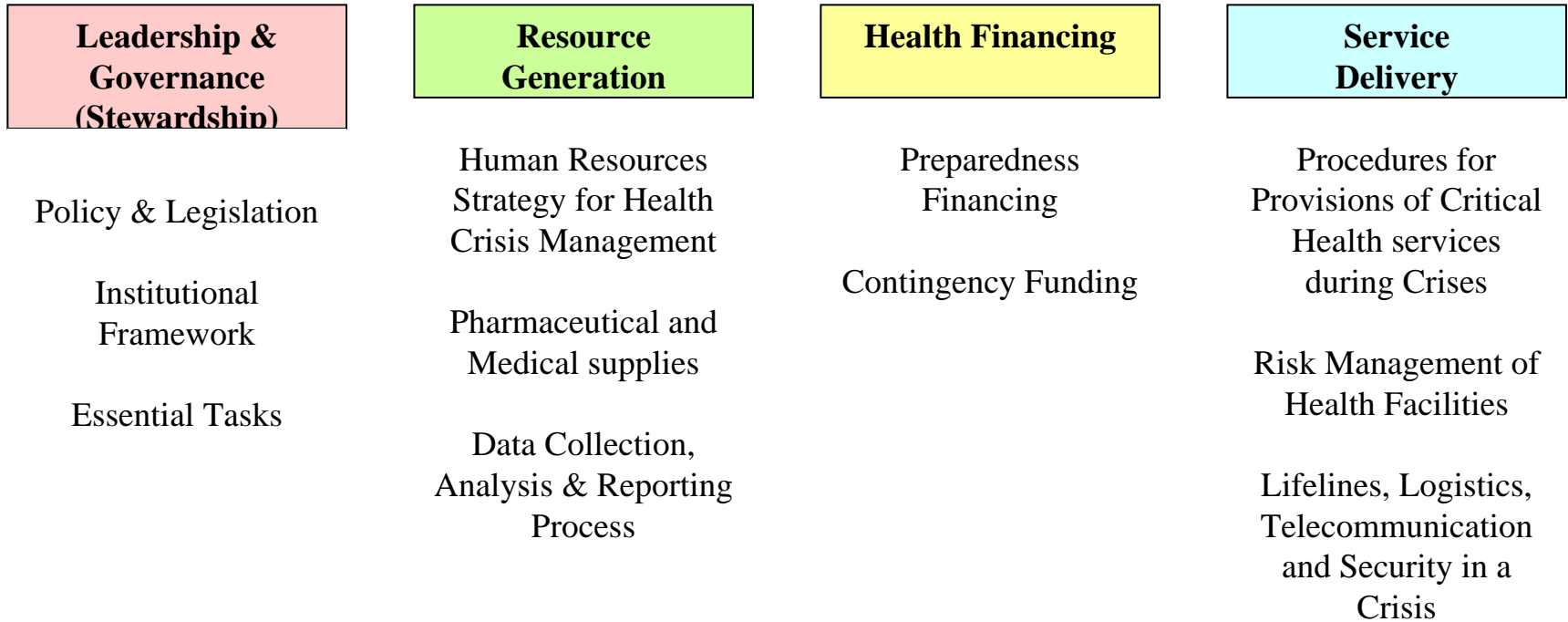
**Better Health**  
(Level and equity)

**Responsiveness**  
(To population's  
Expectations)

**Financial Fairness**  
(equity of financial contribution  
with protection against  
financial risk)

# An evolving assessment tool

## Main Components by Function

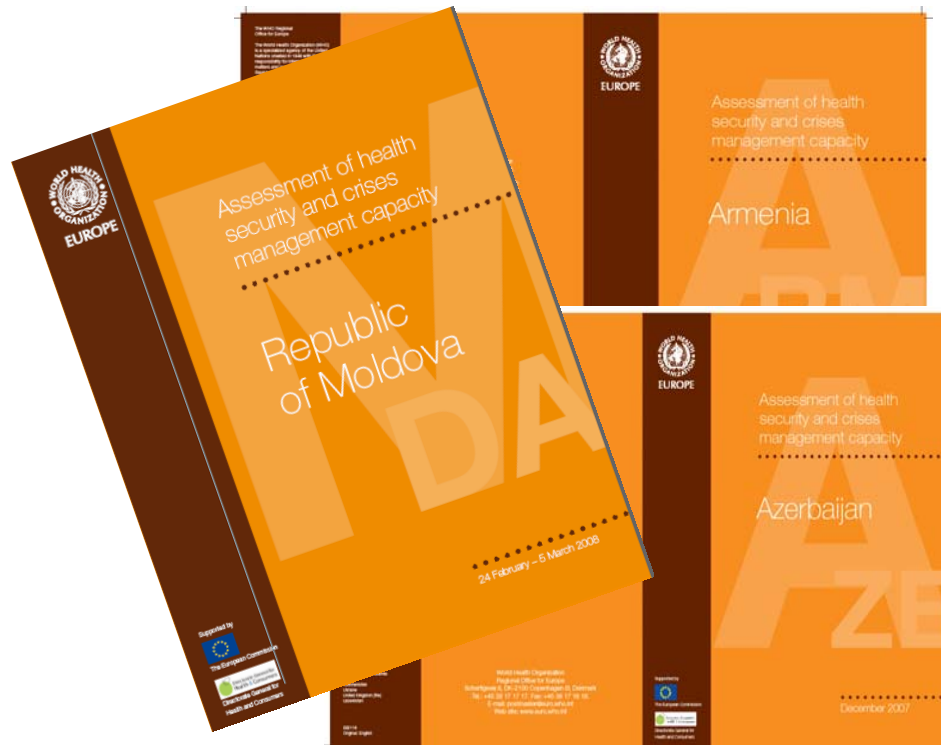


# Joint WHO assessment missions



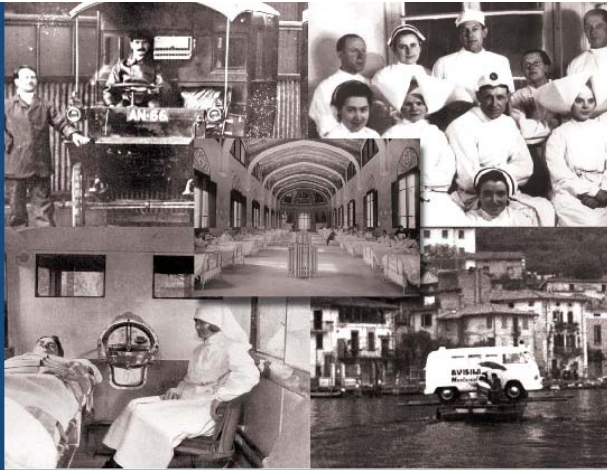
- Generic public health emergency preparedness and “**health security**” **capacity assessments** – 3 country reports published:

- ***Armenia***
- ***Azerbaijan***
- ***Moldova***



- Multidisciplinary expert analysis of strengths and weaknesses of existing plans and systems (standardized assessment methodology)
- Recommendations on priority interventions to strengthen capacities

# EMS Systems in the EU



## Emergency Medical Services Systems in the European Union

Report of an assessment project co-ordinated by the  
World Health Organization



➡ A comprehensive  
analysis of  
Emergency Medical  
Services Systems in  
the European Union



# Dubrovnik expert consultation

April 2009:

- Refined assessment methodology – peer review
- Integration of EMS component into overall crisis preparedness for health systems
- Development of indicators for a regional analysis
- Joint lessons learnt template



# Main components by function

1. Stewardship and Governance	2. Resource Generation	3. Health Financing	4. Service Delivery
<p><b>1.1. Policy and Legislation</b></p> <p>1.1.1. National crisis management policy and legislation</p> <p>1.1.2. Health sector crisis management policy and legislation</p>	<p><b>2.1. Human Resources</b></p> <p>2.1.1. Human resources strategy and planning for health crisis</p> <p>2.1.2. Capacity building for health crisis management</p>	<p><b>3.1. Preparedness Financing</b></p> <p>3.1.1. Budget for health crisis management</p> <p>3.1.2. Budget for vulnerability analysis and risk reduction of critical health facilities</p>	<p><b>4.1. Mass Casualty Management</b></p> <p>4.1.1. Capacity and ability to respond to health consequences of mass casualty incidents</p> <p>4.1.2. Surge capacity for health system response</p> <p>4.1.3. EMS system (including pre-hospital and hospital)</p> <p>4.1.4. Medical evacuation (role of the health sector)</p>
<p><b>1.2. Institutional Framework</b></p> <p>1.2.1. Multisectoral high level crisis management committee</p> <p>1.2.2. Multisectoral operational crisis management body.</p> <p>1.2.3. Health sector multi-disciplinary crisis management committee</p> <p>1.2.4. Health sector crisis management entity</p> <p><b>1.3. Health sector risk reduction and crisis management programme</b></p> <p>1.3.1. Risk reduction initiatives</p> <p>1.3.2. Crisis preparedness planning</p> <p>1.3.3. Coordination and partnerships</p> <p>1.3.4. Health education, public information and communication</p> <p>1.3.5. Evidence based guidance and monitoring evaluation</p>	<p><b>2.2. Pharmaceuticals, medical supplies, equipment and infrastructure</b></p> <p>2.2.1. Essential pharmaceuticals, medical supplies and equipment strategies</p> <p>2.2.2. Disaster-resilient health facilities</p> <p>2.2.3. Service delivery support functions, logistics and infrastructure</p> <p><b>2.3. Health Information Management</b></p> <p>2.3.1. Continuous health risk assessment, surveillance and early warning</p> <p>2.3.2. Rapid health needs assessment</p>	<p><b>3.2. Contingency Funding</b></p> <p>3.2.1. Contingency fund exists</p> <p>3.2.2. International contingency funds</p>	<p><b>4.2. Management of Health Care Facilities</b></p> <p>4.2.1. Health care facilities preparedness</p> <p>4.2.2. Hospital crisis management</p> <p><b>4.3. Continuity of essential medical services</b></p> <p>4.3.1. Essential health programmes including primary care</p> <p>4.3.2. Ensuring health services to displaced populations</p>

# Ongoing activities (1)



- Further improvement of the “**health systems crisis management**” reference (assessment tool, indicators, lessons learnt template)

- Rollout of capacity assessments based on a consolidated methodology – special focus on **mass gatherings** and public health **EURO-2012:**

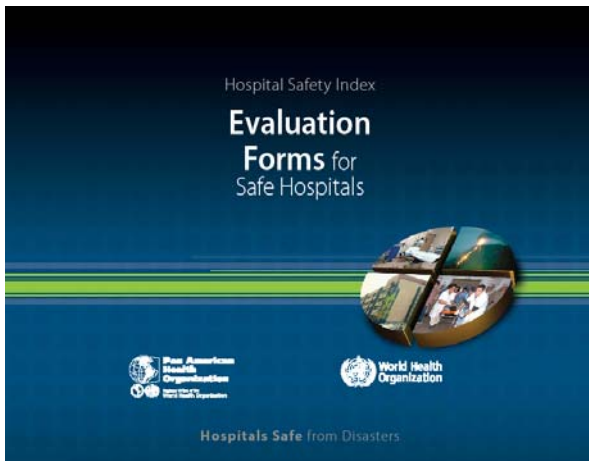
- **Ukraine**
- **Poland**

PL.2012

- **Kyrgyzstan**

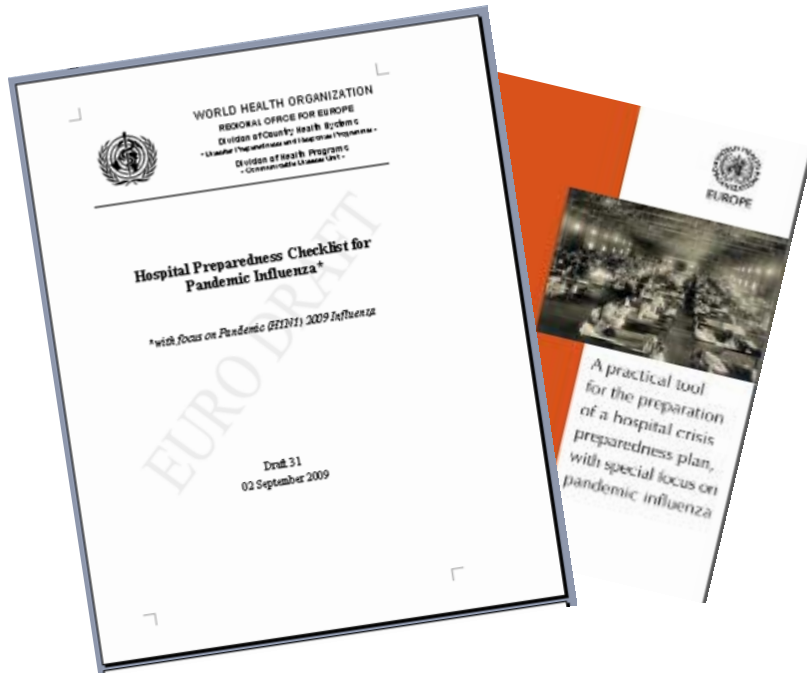
- Strengthening **hospital structural and functional safety**

- WHO “**Hospital Safety Index**”
- Disaster resilient health facilities - *Hyogo framework*



# Ongoing activities (2)

Preparing hospitals and EMS systems  
for **A H1N1 pandemic**



- **“Hospital checklist”**
- Roll out of sub-regional **hospital emergency & pandemic preparedness workshops**:
  - Durres, Albania, 8-10 September 2009
  - Chisinau, Republic of Moldova 22-24 September 2009
  - Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, 6-8 October 2009
- Definition of **standards and indicators** to monitor progress in strengthening national health systems capacities
  - Structured health crisis management **programmes**
  - Continuous national preparedness planning **process**
  - **Public health & emergency management** training programmes (PHEM courses)



# The way forward



➤ Interoperable “**all hazards/whole health**” emergency preparedness programmes

➤ Exercises and drills

➤ Strengthened coordination

➤ Capacity building - sharing expertise



# The WHO - comparative advantage

- The strong country base to advocate health systems preparedness for multiple health hazards
- To build partnerships –”convening power”
- To build sustainable risk management capacities in MEMBER STATES
- To promote evidence based interventions and international best practice

NATURAL  
DISASTERS



TECHNOLOGICAL  
DISASTERS



“COMPLEX”  
DISASTERS





Disaster Preparedness & Response  
Regional Office for Europe  
World Health Organization

Globally known as Health Action in  
Crises

**Thank You**

Dr Gerald Rockenschaub, MPH  
Regional Adviser, DPR - WHO Europe  
<http://www.euro.who.int/emergencies>

